MENTOR MICHIGAN DIRECTORY

CASS COUNTY

This listing for Cass County is organized first by programs that serve the entire county, and second by programs serving a specific city within this county.

The cities are listed alphabetically.

COUNTY-WIDE

Volunteer Center of Southwest Michigan

Kathryn Rossow 1213 Oak Street

Niles, Michigan 49120

Phone: (269) 683-5464 x. 302

Fax: (269) 683-1220

Email: volunteercenter@qtm.net

Program Description:

Volunteer Centers recruit, train, and place volunteers in nonprofit organizations throughout their service area. They are inclusive, serving all nonprofits and residents—they do not limit their service to a particular issue, group of people, or type of activity. Michigan's Volunteer Centers are all prepared to assist mentors find organizations where they can volunteer. Volunteer Centers often take a leadership position in convening organizations and individuals to find solutions to complex community issues. They live their belief that people enrich their own lives and strengthen their communities through volunteer service.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Berrien & Cass, Inc.

Susan Armstrong

P.O. Box 194

Niles, Michigan 49120 Phone: (269) 684-1100 Fax: (269) 684-1490

Email: bbbsofbc@hotmail.com

Program Description:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Berrien & Cass, Inc. prepares children for the future by enhancing their strengths through new experiences and friendships with qualified volunteers, supported by professional staff. Elementary and middle school students are involved with one-on-one and peer mentoring programs that take place in a school or community-based setting. Volunteer mentors are expected to make a one year commitment, which involves one to two hours per week during afternoon, evening, or weekend hours.

COUNTY-WIDE CONTINUED

ExperienceSeniorPower.com

Tony Fama Maria Madeline Project, Inc. 24630 Scotia Boulevard Oak Park, Michigan 48237

Phone: (248) 398-6438 Fax: (248) 692-0391

Email: tony.fama@experienceseniorpower.com

Program Description:

Through ExperienceSeniorPower.com, children and senior citizens learn computer and job skills together. Children receive an adult role model through these "adoptive grandparent" relationships and seniors have the opportunity to contribute their life experience and knowledge. This program includes one-on-one, group, team, and e-mentoring activities. Senior volunteers are expected to make a one year commitment during morning, afternoon, or weekend hours.

Michigan Youth Leadership Forum

William Milzarski 320 North Washington Square, Suite 250 Lansing, Michigan 48913

Phone: (877) 499-6232 Fax: (877) 499-6232

Email: MilzarskiW@Michigan.gov

www.MYLF.org

Program Description:

The Michigan Youth Leadership Forum involves 35 high school students that have disabilities. The students are integrated with other students and adults with disabilities to learn leadership, social skills, and citizenship. The program involves one-on-one, team, and peer mentoring and takes place during one week during the summer. The program is managed by the Michigan Commission on Disability Concerns. Volunteers are expected to commit to one full week in the summer and follow up activities.

DOWAGIAC

First Christian Church Mentoring

Terry Wegner Justus Gage Elementary School 107 Florence

Dowagiac, Michigan 49047 Phone: (269) 782-2092 Fax: (269) 782-2382

Email: terry3760@hotmail.com

Program Description:

Justus Gage Elementary School and the First Christian Church have formed a partnership where church members have lunch at school once a week with at-risk students. The mentors provide emotinal and academic support by providing one-on-one time for children by playing games, sharing life events, and checking on academics. The mentors works with the same child through out his/or her stay at Justus Gage Elementary school, which includes 1st through 4th grades. Volunteer mentors are expected to make a two year commitment, which involves four to six hours during student lunch hours.